

In re Patent Application of:
BAHOUT
Serial No. 10/081,740
Filing Date: FEBRUARY 22, 2002

In the Claims:

Claims 1 to 6 (Cancelled).

7. (Currently Amended) A method of reading sequentially from a memory having an incremental address counter associated therewith, the method comprising:

detecting an address jump ~~signal~~ signal without detecting a memory address code;

incrementing the incremental address counter based upon the detected address jump signal;

reading a content of the memory at the incremented address;

transferring the content read at the incremented address to the incremental address counter; and

reading the content of the memory at the address contained in the incremental address counter.

8. (Previously Presented) A method according to Claim 7, wherein detecting an address jump signal comprises decoding an instruction code.

9. (Previously Presented) A method according to Claim 7, wherein the incremental address counter is incremented by at least one unit.

10. (Previously Presented) A method according to Claim 7, wherein transferring the content read comprises transferring a memory address code corresponding to a following address.

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11. (Currently Amended) A method for reading sequentially from a memory, the method comprising:

- providing an instruction code and a memory address code to an input register;
- providing the memory address code and not the instruction code to an incremental address counter having an input connected to the input register and an output connected to the memory;
- reading the memory at the memory address code indicated by the incremental address counter;
- recording contents read from the memory in an output register;
- detecting an address jump instruction code using an address jump detection circuit having an input connected to the input register, and an output connected to the incremental address counter;
- providing an increment signal from the address jump detection circuit output connected to the incremental address counter based upon the detected address jump instruction code; and
- transferring the recorded contents read at the incremented address to the incremental address counter.

12. (Previously Presented) A method according to Claim 11, wherein the recorded contents comprise a memory address code corresponding to a following address.

13. (Previously Presented) A method according to Claim 11, wherein the incremental address counter is incremented by at least one unit.

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14. (Previously Presented) A method according to Claim 11, wherein the address jump detection circuit comprises a decoder circuit.

15. (Previously Presented) A method according to Claim 11, wherein the transferring is performed using a transfer circuit connected to the incremental address counter and to the output register.

16. (Previously Presented) A method according to Claim 15, wherein the transfer circuit comprises:

a logic gate having an input connected to the output register for transferring in parallel the contents therefrom corresponding to the recorded contents at the incremented address; and

a multiplexer circuit having an input connected to an output of the logic gate, and an output connected to the incremental address counter for directing thereto either the recorded contents in the input register or the memory address code at the incremented address.

17. (Currently Amended) A device for reading sequentially from a memory, the device comprising:

an input register containing an instruction code and a memory address code;

an incremental address counter having an input connected to said input register for receiving the memory address code ~~therefrom~~, therefrom and not the instruction code, and an output connected to the memory;

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an output register having an input connected to the memory for recording contents read at the memory address code indicated by said incremental address counter;

an address jump detection circuit having an input connected to said input register for detecting an address jump instruction code, and an output ~~connected to said incremental address counter~~ for supplying an increment signal thereto, for incrementing said incremental address counter; and

a transfer circuit connected to said incremental address counter and to said output register for transferring the recorded contents read at the incremented address to said incremental address counter.

18. (Currently Amended) A device according to Claim 17, wherein the recorded contents comprise ~~comprises~~ a memory address code corresponding to a following address.

19. (Previously Presented) A device according to Claim 17, wherein said address jump detection circuit comprises a decoder circuit.

20. (Previously Presented) A device according to Claim 17, wherein said transfer circuit comprises:

a logic gate having an input connected to said output register for transferring in parallel the contents therefrom corresponding to the recorded contents at the incremented address; and

a multiplexer circuit having an input connected to an output of said logic gate, and an output connected to said incremental address counter for directing thereto either the

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memory address code in said input register or the recorded contents at the incremented address.

21. (Currently Amended) A device for reading sequentially from a memory, the device comprising:

an input register containing an instruction code and a memory address code;

an incremental address counter having an input connected to said input register for receiving the memory address code ~~therefrom~~, therefrom and not the instruction code, and an output connected to the memory;

an output register having an input connected to the memory for recording contents read at the memory address code indicated by said incremental address counter;

an address jump detection circuit having an input connected to said input register for detecting an address jump instruction code, and an output ~~connected to said incremental address counter~~ for supplying an increment signal ~~thereto~~, for incrementing said incremental address counter;

a logic gate having an input connected to said output register for transferring the contents therefrom corresponding to the recorded contents at the incremented address; and

a multiplexer circuit having an input connected to an output of said logic gate, and an output connected to said incremental address counter for directing thereto either the memory address code in said input register or the recorded contents at the incremented address.

22. (Currently Amended) A device according to

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Claim 21, wherein the recorded contents comprise ~~comprises~~ a memory address code corresponding to a following address.

23. (Previously Presented) A device according to Claim 21, wherein said address jump detection circuit comprises a decoder circuit.

24. (Previously Presented) A device according to Claim 21, wherein said logic gate transfers the contents from the memory to said multiplexer circuit in parallel.

25. (Currently Amended) A device comprising:
a microprocessor;
an input register connected to said microprocessor for receiving an instruction code and a memory address code therefrom;

an incremental address counter having an input connected to said input register for receiving the memory address code ~~therefrom~~ therefrom and not the instruction code;

a memory having an input connected to an output of said incremental address counter;

an output register having an input connected to said memory for recording contents read at the memory address code indicated by said incremental address counter;

an address jump detection circuit having an input connected to said input register for detecting an address jump instruction code, and an output ~~connected to said incremental address counter~~ for supplying an increment signal ~~thereto~~ for incrementing said incremental address counter; and

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a transfer circuit connected to said incremental address counter and to said output register for transferring the recorded contents read at the incremented address to said incremental address counter.

26. (Previously Presented) A device according to Claim 25, wherein the recorded contents read at the memory address code indicated by said incremental address counter are read sequentially from said memory.

27. (Currently Amended) A device according to Claim 25, wherein the recorded contents comprise ~~comprises~~ a memory address code corresponding to a following address.

28. (Previously Presented) A device according to Claim 25, wherein said address jump detection circuit comprises a decoder circuit.

29. (Previously Presented) A device according to Claim 25, wherein said transfer circuit comprises:

a logic gate having an input connected to said output register for transferring in parallel the contents therefrom corresponding to the recorded contents at the incremented address; and

a multiplexer circuit having an input connected to an output of said logic gate, and an output connected to said incremental address counter for directing thereto either the memory address code in said input register or the recorded contents at the incremented address.